

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of Study

“Satanism could become the major religion of the 21st century.”
- Anton Szandor LaVey

Satanism is a topic that often avoided to be discussed, although, in fact, it has become a lifestyle, philosophy, even religion. Anton Szandor LaVey was very popular in 1960 because of his Satanic Church which was full of darkness/ obscurity and his Satanic Bible which shocked many people. Some people welcomed LaVey and even made him their mentor (Howe, 2005: 1).

We might ever hear an extreme music genre, called Black Metal. The genre is quite popular among some people, almost in every continent, especially teenagers. Black Metal can be identified as a hard music by its characteristics that are terrific appearance, related to violence, drug abuse, sex, insulting certain religion (usually Christian) and other Satanic elements.

The followers of Black Metal like to wear black clothes, have tattoos, and put on make-up in gothic looks. They imagine themselves as Satan. There were also many symbols applied, such as inverted cross, torch, fang, blood, skull, and so on.

Those who claim themselves as a Satanist believe that evil or Satan blesses their music. For Satanist, music is able to be used as a propaganda (disseminating media), indoctrination, and burn spirit in human. Meanwhile, in spiritual understanding of the music, it is a medium for communicating with

God. However, it depends on the believer since they can be interpreted as the sound of angels in heaven or even beast's roar in hell (Moynihan, 1998: 1).

Music is used as universal and effective media which can tell ideas, messages, and expressions of the creator to the listeners through its lyric, composition, choice of instrument, and manner of performance. Music is in the level of mass communication. This is due to the number of music listeners which is not a little, but a lot and they are in everywhere, anonymous, and heterogeneous.

Gorgoroth is a Black Metal band from Norway. They have a quite controversial stage act when they performed in an event called Black Mass, located in Krakow, Poland, in 2004. Gorgoroth displayed ten goat's heads which were attached to poles, crossed men and women's bodies with their heads covered by cloth and their bodies were covered by blood. All those things were represented clearly on the stage where they performed. Their performance would surely make us think, why that band were doing those things.



Figure 1. Gorgoroth Black Metal band's personnel on Black Mass in Krakow, Poland 2004, alphabetically: a. Apollyon (Guitar), b. Infernus (Guitar), c. Gaahl (Vocal), d. King ov Hell (Bass), e. Kvitrafn (Drum) (Source: <http://sinistercreek.wordpress.com/> accessed on 22 October 2013, at 23:04 WIB)

“Gorgoroth drew international attention in early February after they were accused of "offending religious feelings" during their concert. The band was also suspected of breaching the Polish law on protection of animals by displaying the severed and impaled heads of sheep as part of their stage act.” (Source: <http://www.blabbermouth.net/> accessed on October 17, 2013, at 21:19 WIB)

The result of their concert made local government of Krakow, Poland, sued Gorgoroth's wicked acts toward animal and their insulting acts toward certain religion sect. The goat's heads displayed were used to symbolize Satan that they worship, which is Baphomet, a Satan having head of a goat and body of a woman.



Figure 2. Goat's heads which were displayed in the concert of Gorgoroth Black Metal band in Black Mass in Krakow, Poland in 2004. (Source: <http://www.vice.com/> accessed on October 22, 2013, at 23:17 WIB)

Symbol is something used to represent something else, based on common agreement among a group of people. Symbols in this media are visualized in various form whether in music, film, video, or news with the help of camera which comes in the form of shot interpretation, angle of camera, background, setting of place, costume, attribute, accessories, and attitude that the actress or talent shows. Symbol has many meanings including both positive and negative which will be accepted by the public in their own level of understanding (Sobur, 2004: 157).

Symbol is something used to represent something else, based on common agreement among a group of people. A symbol consists of words (verbal message), verbal act, and object having an agreed meaning. If symbol is one element of communication, symbol does not occur in a social-space, rather in a certain context or situation. Human ability in creating symbol represents his high culture in his way of communicating (Sobur, 2006: 43)

The study of symbols captured in the live show video of Gorgoroth is very interesting to investigate. This video shows the elements which are related to Satanism and Anti-Christianity were represented in the form of make-up, costumes being used, music and lyric being performed, and ornaments on the stage set. Besides the accessibility of this old video on YouTube makes everyone could easily watch the live show video of Gorgoroth. Therefore, this study is supposed be able to broaden the knowledge for youngsters who are showered by foreign cultures that embrace Indonesia through music, accessories, and so on. They might be clueless about the essence behind the symbols they wear because they only want to be fashionable.

This study focuses on the costumes and stage properties attributed in the live concert video Gorgoroth the Black Metal Band, in Black Mass event, Krakow, Poland, in 2004 which is assumed to be fully contented with Satanic and Anti-Christianity symbols. This is a prior study since there was no study that discuss about Gorgoroth or even the Satanic and Anti-Christianity symbols attached to them. However, there are some other studies discussing about other metal genres.

This study will also discuss about how the Satanic and Anti-Christianity symbols contented in the video of Gorgoroth the Black Metal Band in Black Mass event, in Krakow 2004 are able to be interpreted. Therefore, this study applies Semiotic theories as the basis. Semiotics is a knowledge of or method for analyzing symbols. Symbols are set of way in

order to find better path in between and together with human. Semiotics—Barthes' term refers to Semiology—basically studies how humanity signifies things. 'To signify' in this term is different from 'to communicate'. 'To signify' refers to the fact that objects do not only provide information, but also other structural system of signs. The other purpose it to show illogical acts, interesting riddles, and the most trusted details (Sobur, 2004: 66).

There are some other research about Black Metal genre but they takes the view of fashion, which one of them is a bachelor thesis by Yudhistira Ardi Nugroho, Fine Art/ Textile Department, Letters and Art Faculty, Sebelas Maret University, in 2006, entitled *Busana dalam lingkup kelompok "punk", "reggae" dan "black metal" di Surakarta*. The research investigates the development of clothing in "*Punk*", "*Reggae*" and "*Black Metal*" culture in Surakarta. Besides revealing the historical aspect of the clothing creation, that research stresses on the symbolic and philosophical aspects conveyed in the clothing. That research studies how the manifestation of the clothing is and what of those two aspects are conveyed. The finding shows that based on the form, the clothing of "*Punk*", "*Reggae*" and "*Black Metal*" is created under the concept of non-conformity, the same with the basis of Punk culture establishment that fights against capitalism.

Another research studies about underground metal music, entitled *Metal (Studi Deskriptif Band-band Metal di Kota Medan)* by Muhammad Fiqri Munzir, Social Anthropology Department, Political and Social Science Faculty, Universitas Sumatera Utara, in 2009. The research is about the use of

music as media in expressing emotions, happiness, and peace and about how certain community responses to metal music. The problems being investigated in the research are what the dimension of metal is, how the metal bands are existed in Medan. The findings show that ‘metal’ is for those who dislike what people do especially those who regard themselves powerful, like to suppress others, torture them, and deceive them. Furthermore, there is consistency in metal fans about what they imagine, dream of, and about what contradicts them. The consistency is established in their daily life as they oppose any suppression done by the powerful ones.

This research has a new perspective and is hoped to be able to fill the literature gap of other previous researches on Gorgoroth Black Metal band. The findings of this research will provide reference of Satanism and Anti-Christianity symbols in Black Metal band. The title of this research is **“Satanism and Anti-Christianity in Black Metal (Semiotics on a Live Concert Video of Black Metal Band *Gorgoroth*, in Black Mass Event at Krakow, Poland 2004)”**.

B. Research Question

Based on the background mentioned previously, the problem is:

1. What are symbols that represented in the live concert video of Black Metal Band *Gorgoroth*, in Black Mass event at Krakow, Poland 2004?

2. What are the means of that symbols that represented in the live concert video of Black Metal Band *Gorgoroth*, in Black Mass event at Krakow, Poland 2004?

C. Objective of The Study

To interpret the Satanic and Anti-Christianity symbols in the live concert video of Black Metal Band *Gorgoroth*, in Black Mass event at Krakow, Poland 2004, by using Semiotics

D. Significance of The Study

1. This study is supposed to provide new point of view or understanding, especially on communication science field for symbolic studies in media.
2. This study is supposed to be a complementary source for other researchers or community that provides information in interpreting the Satanic and Anti-Christianity symbols in wider context.

E. Literature Review

1. Literature Review

a. Communication

The word "communication" derives from Latin, "communist", which means similar. In this case, similar refers to the similarity in meanings. Communication requires similarity between both parties. Not only communication is informative, but it is also persuasive. Communication is a process of exchanging ideas between a

communicator and a recipient. The ideas include information, ideas, or opinions of the communicator (Effendy, 1995: 9).

The term communication can simply be elaborated as the process of exchanging messages between a communicator and a recipient. Scholars have been trying to propose the definition of communication, that is, by dividing communication into three concepts:

1) First dimension – Viewed from Its Conciseness

Communication is illustrated as a process that bridges the missing links. In other words, communication can also be defined as a system to send information or order to the recipient.

2) Second dimension – Objective

The process of exchanging information is based upon an objective. One of the objectives is to influence the recipient's behavior.

3) Third dimension – Normative Assessment

Several definitions about communication may include the success, preciseness, and effectiveness of the message. Communication also includes conveying an individual's ideas (Dance in Littlejohn, 2009: 4).

Those statements above suggest that communication is persuasive. As stated previously, communication involves the

transmission of ideas, emotions, and mastery of using symbols, words, figures, or charts (Berelson & Steiner in Deddy Mulyana, 2005: 62).

Scholars in information studies have observed the difference of the communication patterns between the East and West. Theories tend to observe the gimmicks instead of the basic integration. The Western view values logic, thus in contrary with the Eastern view. Eastern tradition focuses on integration and harmony. In Eastern culture, verbal symbols, especially speech utterance, tend to be neglected and given skeptical view (Littlejohn, 2009: 7).

b. Semiotic Approach in Communication Studies

1) Communication Semiotic

The terms Semiotic and Semiology in the history of linguistics study refer to the study that observes the meanings of a sign or symbol. Those two terms derive from two different cultures. In 1857-1913, Ferdinand de Saussure from Europe postulated the existence of Semiology. In America, it was proposed by Charles Sanders Pierce, a philosopher. Saussure defines Semiology as the study that observes the symbols that exist in a community. Semiology explains how symbols are formulated and the rules that govern the symbols. Pierce argues that the basic of Semiotics is symbols. Besides language and communication systems, the symbols also include the things in

human environment that enables human to build relationship with the environment (Sobur, 2004: 12)

However, this study will focus on the Semiology as proposed by Roland Barthes. Barthes was a French structuralist who practiced Saussure's linguistics model and Semiology. Barthes argued that Semiology studies how humans put meanings on things. However, the meanings here imply that the objects not only convey information, but also the symbol system (Kurniawan, 2001 in Sobur, 2004).

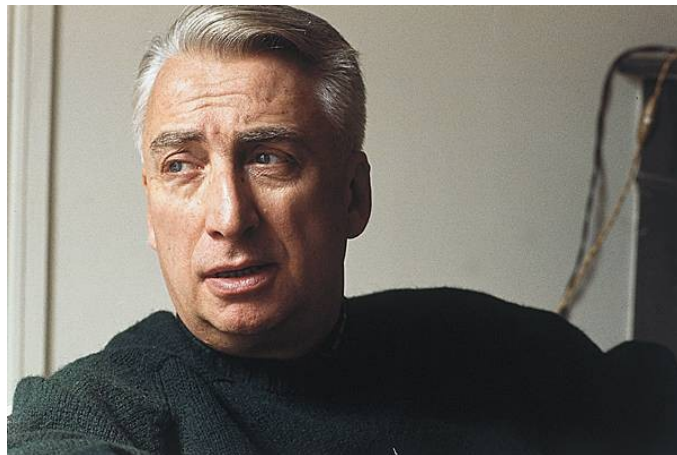


Figure 3. Roland Gerard Barthes, a French Semiologist, author of *Mythologies* (1957). (Source: <http://www.larousse.fr/> accessed on December 23, 2013, at 14:10 WIB)

According to Barthes, there are two levels of Semiology: first level (denotative) and second level (connotative). Cobley and Jansz (1999) in Sobur (2004) explain that the denotative sign (3) consists of first (1) and second level (2). At the same time, denotative signifier is also a connotative signifier (4). Therefore, According to Barthes, the connotative

sign includes two denotative attributes. Not only connotative signifier has additional meanings, but also has two attached denotative attributes. Barthes has contributed towards Saussure's Semiology, which stopped at the denotative level.

Signifier	Signified
Denotative Sign	
CONNOTATIVE SIGNIFIER	CONNOTATIVE SIGNIFIED
CONNOTATIVE SIGN	

Table 1. Roland Barthes's Map of Signs (Source: Paul Cobley & Litza Jansz, 1999; in Sobur 2004: 69)

Connotation on Barthes's structure is called as mythology and functions to reveal and support the truth of dominant values in certain period of time. Three dimensions exist in myth, they are signifier, signified, and sign. Myth is included in the second layer. Barthes classifies myth and ideology into one category as connotative signifier and signified occurs simultaneously (Budiman, 2001 in Sobur, 2004).

2) Visual Semiotic

Like any other field, videography has its own special terms that are used worldwide. There are five measurement standards related to human object, such as two shots (taking

pictures of two people), three shots (taking pictures of three people), and group shot (taking pictures of a group of people).

Related to camera movement, some terms are known, such as:

a) Pan and Tilt

Pan or panning is a method in scene capturing that is done by moving the camera left or right. Tilt is done by moving the camera's lens up or down while keeping its horizontal axis constant. Those two methods function to connect the objects that are located in separated areas, to show cause-effect relationship, to show the connection between schemes, to divert audience's attention, and to create tension.

b) Dolly

Dolly in and dolly out is done by moving the camera back and forth towards the object.

c) Track

The camera moves physically while maintaining its shooting angle, thus creating a sense of moving objects.

d) Pedestal (Boom) and Crane

Pedestal/boom/jimmy-jib enables scene recording from extreme angles. There are two techniques commonly used, pedestal up, which aims to show an object top-down and to reduce the dominance of the foreground and the

object itself. Pedestal down aims to capture the objects that are located on low positions or to capture the objects at the foreground so that the events at the background look vague. It aims to attract the audience's attention and to reinforce the object's dominance (Darwanto, 2007: 239).

2. Music in Cultural Studies

“The ideological power of cultural industry, already such that way until conformity (uniformity) replaces the awareness” (Theodore W. Adorno in the Dominic Strinati, 2009:110).

Aiming to seek profits, the industries produce a various products, either material or non material, to distribute to the society. Music is a universal and effective medium used to convey the arrangers' ideas, messages, and expressions to the listeners. For its universality, music is a perfect medium for mass communication. Among the tremendous kinds of music, indie music emerged as a revolt against mainstream music, a term that describes popular music produced by major musical labels.

“...The culture industry intentionally integrates its consumers from above. To the detriment of both it forces together the spheres of high and low art, separated for thousand years. The seriousness of high art is destroyed the speculation about its efficacy; the seriousness of the lower perishes with the civilization constraints imposed on the rebellious resistance inherent within it as long as social control was not yet total...” (Theodore W. Adorno in Dominic Strinati, 1995: 62).

Cultural industry, mass culture, and mass media are able to influence society's opinion, view, lifestyle, even individual beliefs. The rapid development of technology enables music to spread massive

influence to the listeners. However, the case is different with indie music as they are the reflection of heart feelings. Early 1990s, some teenagers in Bandung who played grind core music created some songs that contained rude words. They distributed their music within their own circle (Theodore KS, 2013: 292).

Through the lyric, music composition, choice of instruments, and performance the music was miraculously able to lead his audience into a new world. This is because the recipient of the message of the music is not small, but very, very much, scattered in many places, are anonymous, and heterogeneous

According to Adorno, popular music has been dominated by two major processes, namely, *standardization* and *pseudo-individualization*. Standardization refers to the pop songs, which is almost similar and characterized by a structure that can exchange with each other. This process describes how the culture industry, trying to knock down a variety of challenges, authenticity, or intellectual stimulation of music it produces. While pseudo-individualization, took over the concern with creating a 'novelty' or 'uniqueness' certain songs, which is intended for the audience, and hide the standardization process by making the songs more varied and different from the other songs (Strinati, 1995: 65).

Gorgoroth is one of the examples of the pseudo-individualization, because they're coming up from the 'underground' with their Satanism and Anti-Christianity concept, which are far away from the standardization

process as a pop song. Because, their stage act and the main concept, aren't easily to be consumed by the mass. Rejection of the religion and blasphemy of God for their musical themes, makes Gorgoroth become more unique and more varied from the other standard pop songs.

“...the frame of mind to which popular music originally appealed, on which it feeds, and which it perpetually reinforces, is simultaneously one of distraction and inattention...” (Theodore W. Adorno in Dominic Strati, 1995: 67).

Standardization keeps their listeners in line by doing their listening for them as it were. Pseudo-individualization, in this part, keeps their listener in line by making them forget that what they listen. In Gorgoroth's case, they create their own song by using any Scream vocal type, which is makes their songs isn't easy to be consumed by any other people. Because, people can't catch any lyrics inside the songs. The slight variation of the norm which makes Gorgoroth's songs become a rebel, uncompromised due to the religion, a bit harsh, but it gives a novelty. So that, *standardization* process goes hand in hand with the 'standardized' consumption, and *pseudo-individualisation* saves the efforts of the originality, in this case is the music. Both of these processes comprise the distraction and inattention which define regressive listening.

3. Satanism

When Anton Szandor Lavey built the Church of Satan (Church of Satan) on April 30, 1966, he was aware of all that in the future he will be the center of attention from all over the world. Now, Satanism has

managed to make the world to begin to understand the true meaning behind the religious organizations, which historically used the symbol of glory and rebellion, as well as elements of the crime (evil).

Peter H. Gilmore High Priest in the Church of Satan (Church of Satan) wrote in his book "The Satanic Scriptures", Satanism is a philosophy of religion which includes the concept that animals and humans should it contains an art, which is a reflection of the creative efforts of individuals who making, as well as the cultural environment in which it was created. However, it is selective in nature, only the aesthetics of art that depicted a human experience, including actual experiences directly as well as indirectly achieved through imagination or through the media for transmitting information (Gilmore, 2007: 68).

The Satanists tend to be individual; hardly any of them who want to assimilate with the society on the street. Satanism pushed back to the more traditional values in art and literature as mastery of techniques and forms of emotional communication process, both in form and function, design and implementation. Satanists have found material wealth in Western culture, so cherished and held in high esteem by them as the pinnacle of human performance in terms of work, so do not die so easily

A truly Satanic usually choose to be someone who is individualistic, and racism, especially toward religion. Satanists not only tolerate weirdness for granted but also try to find the same relationship with fellow followers of Satanic teachings. A Satanist is like a wolf

howling at night. But sometimes they can get together and form a group of fellow Satanists too. They look to themselves that they are different from those around them. Satanists also consider themselves one with the animals that are considered clean for them, but not for people in general (Gilmore, 2007: 26).

4. Anti-Christianity

“Christianity is a monotheistic and Abrahamic religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus...the Son of God, fully divine and fully human and the savior of humanity. Because of this, Christians commonly refer to Jesus as Christ or Messiah...Christianity began as a Jewish sect in the mid-1st century...Christians believe that Jesus is the Messiah prophesied in the Hebrew Bible, referred to as the "Old Testament" in Christianity...” (Source: <http://www.worldreligions.com/index.php/christianity>, accessed on Saturday, June 14, 2014, at 13:33 WIB).

Christianity is the religion that dominates almost the entire continent of Europe. In ancient times has been widely recognized that Christianity became the religion of the Roman Empire. Establishment of the teachings of 'One God is Three Persons' has not been affirmed in the Christian life and faith of its adherent's recognition until the end of the fourth century. But it seems 'formula' has become known as the first recognition of the Trinity Dogma. Thus, the Christian religion has changed throughout the years and creating new dogmas of the divinity of Jesus, the Trinity, Waris Sin, Sacrifice for the Atonement, and Redemption Blood. Along with these dogmas also held various religious ceremonies, and the most important is the bathhouse (Baptist) and Holy Communion (Eucharist) (Sammad, 1990: 193).

That is an idea about Christianity. The religion has evolved over the years by absorbing many elements of paganism (idolatry). Jan 'Hellhammer' Blomberg, drummer for the band Black Metal from Norway, the Mayhem, assess Christianity is a product of the West, which contains elements of liberalism, globalism, egalitarianism, plutocracy, and so forth. Thus, Anti-Christianity, consider their actions against the Christian religion, as a rebellion (Moynihan, 1998: 312).

The same thing also expressed by a single band of musicians from the Norwegian Black Metal, Burzum, Varg i.e. 'Count Grishnackh' Vikernes. He believes that if Christianity has destroyed their ancestral culture. 'Pagan' is derived from the word 'Paganus', which means 'Villagers' when translated in English, which means that people living or occupying a particular region or country. People believe that the word Pagan is used, because, first Christians came to urban, which means the people in remote areas still practice ancient rituals handed down his ancestors, before their eventual conversion to Christianity. Given LaVey's Church of Satan belongs; Varg considers when Lavey has successfully dropped the morals of Christianity that has long been underway. Anti-Christianity is a generation element of Paganism, in an attempt to the rejection of the values of devotion to Jesus, as 'Object of Chosen People' by the Jews. Because Varg, Christians believe comes from the land of Jerusalem, where the Jewish and Zionist organizations thrive. The goal is

to purify the ancient beliefs of European society, to uphold the values of Paganism (Vikernes, 2012: www.burzum.org).



Figure 4. Varg ‘Count Grishnackh’ Vikernes the only musician in Burzum Black Metal band, from Norway, who fights against Christianization in Europe, especially Scandinavia, to purify the ancient beliefs. (Source: <http://www.burzum.org/eng/gallery02.php?id=photo02>, accessed on December 3, 2013, at 23:06 WIB).

5. Black Metal Music

The existence of Black Metal genre is closely related to Venom. That band was founded in around 1979 – 1980 in Newcastle, United Kingdom. At first, Venom was a Heavy Metal band. Its music was influenced by the sound style of Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, and Led Zeppelin. However, as the time goes by, Venom changed its vocal style,

and its guitar distortion was also getting faster and noisier (Moynihan, 1998: 10).



Figure 5. The personnel of Venom Band in early 1980s (Left) and the later days (Right). Venom is believed to be the founder of Black Metal genre (Source: <http://www.google.com/> accessed on December 3, 2013, at 23:06 WIB).

Actually, Satanism and Black Metal are two separated things. Black Metal is a music genre which usually represents Satanism and some of the bands have personnel who follow Satanism. Led Zeppelin, for example, is a Rock band, but some of its lyrics convey Satanism. Besides, Marilyn Manson who is the follower of LaVey's Satanic church does not take Black Metal genre rather he plays Industrial Metal.

It can be concluded that Satanism and Black Metal are two different matters. Black Metal genre is genuinely carried established by Venom.

"I certainly have in the past. I haven't spent a lot time on any religion for quite a few years. It's something that I'm getting back towards, and I get a lot from people like LaVey. I'm a firm believer in all religions. Religion has become money now, and it's very dangerous area because people can become very persuasive. We've always tried to make Venom as powerful as loud and unmissable as we

possibly can, but without preaching to people. We're very conscious about that. All the fans are called Legions and we are at their behest, but we don't want to preach. It's quite a difficult thing. We don't want to be seen as some kind of organized religion whereby you have to buy the t-shirt or the album to keep funding the thing that is Venom. If you don't want to listen to Venom anymore, so be it." – Tony 'Abaddon' Bray, Drummer on Venom Band (Moynihan, 1998: 13).

Abaddon's statement show that he does not believe in any religion. Nevertheless, he states that in music industry, religion could become a business. Meanwhile, Venom is not purely about Satanism. They do not want to preach to gain fans so that they will buy the t-shirts and the albums. For venom, that thing might be risky.

After the raising of Venom as the first generation of Black Metal genre, then in 1990, other Black Metal bands showed up such as Mayhem, Burzum, Darkthrone, Gorgoroth, Immortal, and so on. They changed the characteristics of the music. Venom is more like Trash Metal at that time, while the second generation bands convinced their fans that they played deeper genre, True Norwegian Black Metal. The music features tend to be rougher, faster, and the drum beat is like the Old Skool Punk, which is characterized by the run on bass drum and snare. Besides, along with the raising of second wave of Black Metal, there are a lot of controversial issues such as arson of the churches by the only personnel of Burzum, Varg 'Count Grisen' Vikernes. Varg who is also a Paganism, believe that arsonic is one proof for his struggle against Christianity in Scandinavia, place where he lives. (Moynihan, 1998: 89).

Black Metal music is often identified by its fast and rough p. Additionally, the rhythm is not as gentle as Pop music. Based on the observation on some Black Metal bands, the player's character could be described as follows:

a. Guitar

The guitar play in Black Metal is characterized by a high-pitched guitar rhythm. In addition, Power Chord distortion is dominant. Usually, the guitar play may turn into the lowest sound then change into Alternate Picking and Tremolo Pick. The guitar tone is usually lowered from E Chord to D Chord, C Chord, or even lower to produce darker sound.

b. Vocal and Lyric

Sometimes, there is additional effect in the vocal and it makes the sound is more like Atmosphere and high-pitched scream. Usually, the vocal is less powerful than the guitar rhythm, so that the lyric is barely heard. The lyric itself often use words related to Satan, paganism, ancient Gods, mystical theme that curse Christianity (Anti-Christianity), war, cold weather, darkness, woods, and natures in Europe.

c. Drum

An intense play of double bass drum and a high-pitched combination between snare and bass drum make the rhythm sounds like a drum in Punk music. Sometimes, the drum plays are so slow,

depending on the ambience of the music. Several bands, such as Burzum or Xasthur, even often do not play any drum in some songs. The others play mechanical drum for better performance. It is usually for racing the speed of the song.

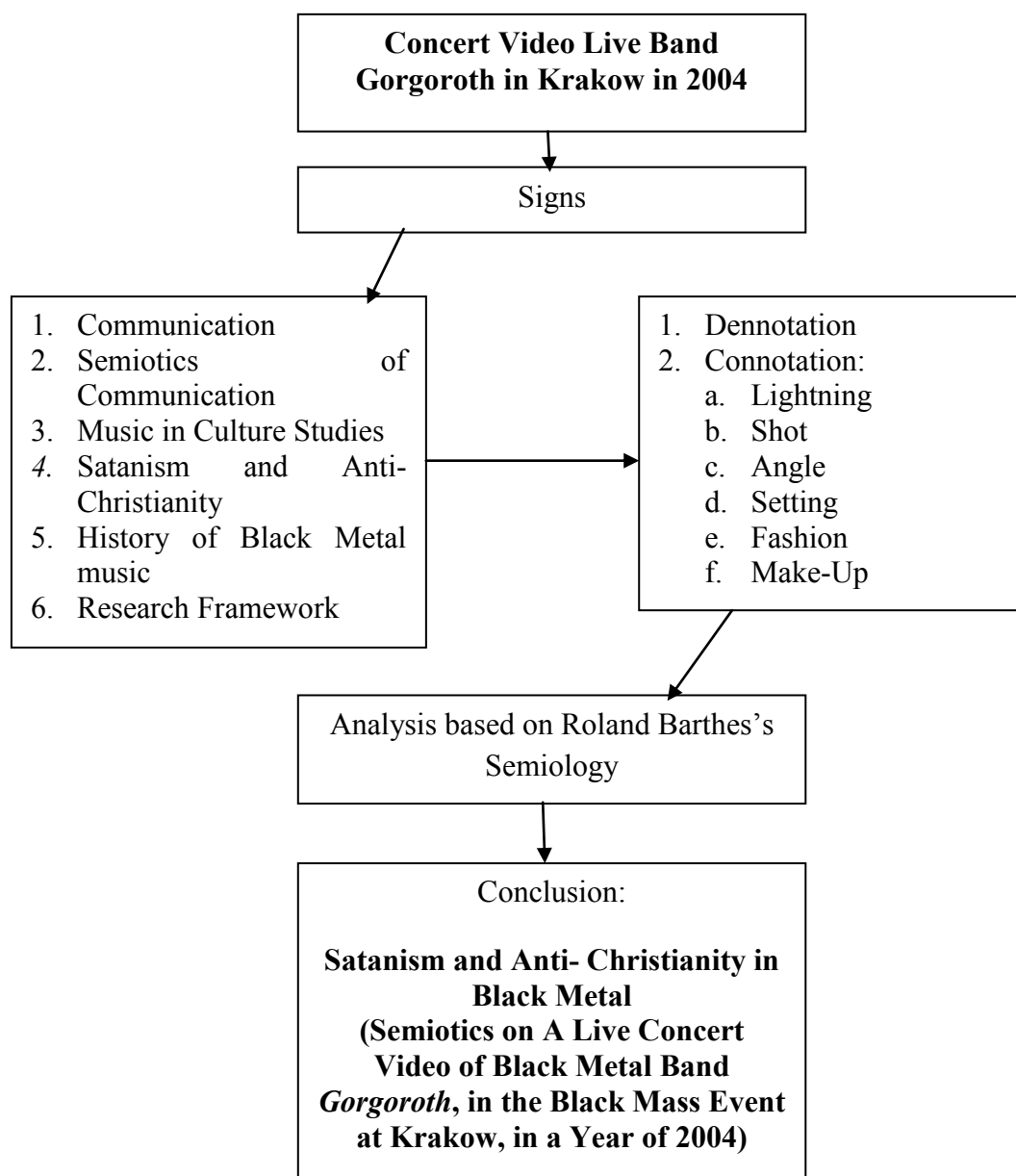
Black Metal is an aggressive, anarchy, and uncompromised music. It is dynamic and fast, completed by the lyric that tells about rule violence and worshipping in certain ritual. Some assume that the image performed by Black Metal band is for creating disbelieving society, individualistic, and isolated life (Seng, 2007: 170).

Symbols that are commonly associated with Black Metal are the inverted pentagram with inscribed goat's head on it and inverted cross. Nevertheless, not every Black Metal band uses those symbols. Burzum, for example, Varg Vikernes never uses those symbols in his band's T-shirt artwork, CDs, or LPs. Burzum tends to use old pagan culture that worship Odin and Thor, so that Varg Vikernes chooses the old Scandinavian runes. Besides, there are some other bands which are famous as Nationalist Socialist Black Metal (NSBM). They play that music genre, usually related to Neo-Nazi, which its lyric is about fascism, anti-Semitism, and other issues about Neo-Nazi. However, this research will only focus on one genre, Satanism Black Metal.

In Satanic Black Metal band, such as Gorgoroth, the use of those symbols is essential. For Satan worshipers, Satan is not the main concept of crime in mind, yet a pulse for them against God (Christ). Baphomet is

honored as the symbol of almighty power. LaVey the Church of Satan founder also designed a symbol for his book cover which he calls ‘The Sigil of Baphomet. Although it is only a basic form of sigil and Baphomet symbol, LaVey seemed understand the power of symbol. (Sorrell, 2008: 55).

6. Research Framework



F. Research Method

1. Type of the Research

This research is a descriptive qualitative research that applies communicative Semiotic methodology. A descriptive research aims to describe the phenomenon systematically, factual, and accurate. This research aims at describing the happening realities without explaining the relations among the variables.

Descriptive research refers to research procedures that result in descriptive data. This research does not apply any quantification and is supposed to explain a phenomenon in detail. (Kriyantono, 2010: 56).

2. Data Source

a. Object of the Study

The Object of this research is a text in the form of live concert video of Gorgoroth Black Metal band, at Black Mass event in Krakow, Poland, in 2004 with 00:55:03 (fifty five minutes and three seconds) video length.

b. Sample

The sampling method of this research is purposive sampling, which means that the sample is taken based on the research need (live concert video of Gorgoroth Black Metal band, at Black Mass event in Krakow, Poland, in 2004). The video was chosen because Gorgoroth displayed goats' heads and naked-crucified human while the heads were covered by cloth and the body was covered by blood. Those

things are presented obviously on the stage. As a result, the local government of Krakow, Poland, sued what the band had done.

c. Type of the Data

The data of this research are visual.

d. Technique of Collecting the Data

The techniques used in this research are observation and document study (non-participant). The documents are taken from “www.youtube.com” entitled: “*Gorgoroth* – Black mass Krakow (FULL DVD)”, uploaded by: Vorkus02.

e. Technique of Analyzing the Data

The technique will be applied to the signs identified on the video. Then, they will be analyzed by using Semiology theory proposed by Roland Barthes that focuses on two levels of significance (denotation and connotation). In this research, the data are about Satanism represented by Gorgoroth, and then they will be analyzed by Roland Barthes’ Semiology.

In the first stage of signifying the data (denotation), both verbal and non-verbal data are presented separately. After that, at the second stage (connotation), the significations is carried out thoroughly to reveal an in depth understanding on the themes and meanings which relates to visual aspects such as lightning, shot, angle, setting, fashion, and make-up. This second stage is then referred to several aspects: cultural, social, and value system in society (mythology).

f. Technique of Validating the Data

This research applies triangulation of data sources and theories. It pictures how far the data have been collected accurately, including the supporting theories that represent the phenomenon.